

Remarks

Claims 1, 17, 19 and 20 were found objectionable on formal grounds. Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 USC 102 based on Colligan. Claims 1-26 have been canceled above, and new claims 27-33 presented.

Applicants respectfully traverse the foregoing rejection under 35 USC 102 as applied to new claims 27-33 based on the following:

New claim 27 recites “a tracing program embedded in said program code”. In contrast, Colligan et al. disclose a non embedded “controller with suitable firmware for logging characteristic operational information.” See Column 3 lines 31-32.

New claim 27 also recites that three different types of records are stored in three different buffers, i.e. errors are logged in a first buffer, warnings are logged in a second buffer and messages are logged in a third buffer. While Colligan et al. recite logging of errors, Colligan et al. do not disclose or suggest logging of warnings or messages, nor logging of warnings and messages in different buffers than errors. See Column 3 lines 33-37.

New claim 27 also recites “a merging program module to subsequently merge errors, warnings and messages based on a chronological order in which said errors, warnings and messages were logged”. While Colligan et al. disclose time stamping and that “a record of the failure events as per their respective logs and time stamps, are kept in a log”, Colligan et al. do not disclose or suggest merging of log records after they were segregated. Therefore, new claim 27 further distinguishes over Colligan et al.

New claim 31 distinguishes over Colligan et al. based on the recitation of “a tracing program embedded in said program code”, as explained above. Also, new claim 31 recites nine different types of records and that these nine different types of records are stored in nine separate, buffers. As noted above, Colligan et al. only disclose error records. Therefore, new claim 31 distinguishes over Colligan et al.

New claim 34 distinguishes over Colligan et al. based on the recitation of “a tracing program embedded in said program code”, as explained above. Also, new claim 34 recites three different types of records and that these three different types of records are stored in three separate, dedicated buffers. As noted above, Colligan et al. only disclose error records. Therefore, new claim 34 distinguishes over Colligan et al.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants request allowance of the present patent application as amended above.

Respectfully submitted,



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